THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (e) Publicity material like posters, brochures, films, CDs etc. is distributed through India Tourism offices in India and abroad for providing information to both domestic and foreign tourists. A proposal for providing audio-guide services to the tourists at selected monuments is under consideration. There is no specific proposal regarding Orissa.

Memorial on Abhay Ghat

2976. SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government proposed to develop a Memorial on Abhay Ghat in the memory of former Prime Minister of India, late Shri Morarji Desai;

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard; and

(c) by when it is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (c) A memorial of Shri Morarji Desai named 'Abhay Ghat' has been constructed at the bank of river Sabarmati, District Kheda, Gujarat. The construction work started in July, 1997 and was completed in March, 1999.

Construction works by Army Near Taj Mahal

†2977. SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the army has undertaken some construction work near the Taj Mahal;

(b) whether the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has served them with notice;

(c) whether the construction work by the army is likely to damage the Taj; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and latest position thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) The army has not undertaken any construction work near the Taj Mahal. However, the army has started some construction activity on its land near Agra Fort.

(b) Yes, Sir. The work has been stopped in the absence of a licence from ASI.

(c) and (d) Question does not arise.

Identification of heritage sites in the country

†2978. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGGARWAL: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of places where cultural heritage centres and other heritage places have been indentified in other States including Delhi as on date and their locations;

(b) the arrangements made for their safety and protection by the Central Government and State Governments;

(c) the amount spent for this purpose during the last three fiscal years; and

(d) the details of proposals sent by State Governments in this regard?

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.